



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/800,949	03/07/2001	Peter Renner	000819	6761

7590 04/09/2003

Michael G. Panian
Buchanan Ingersoll, Professional Corporation
20th Floor
301 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

EXAMINER

PHAN, JOSEPH T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2645

DATE MAILED: 04/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/800,949

Applicant(s)

RENNER ET AL.

Examiner

Joseph T Phan

Art Unit

2645

13

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 1-16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wolff et al., Patent #5,327,486.**

Regarding claims 1 and 9, Wolff teaches a telephone call announcement system and method comprising (Fig.1):
means and method for answering a phone call initiated by a calling party (col.3 lines 51-55);
means and method for announcing a greeting to the calling party(40 fig.2);
means and method for obtaining information about the calling party from a database (26 Fig. 2 and col.3 lines 51-60);
means and method for announcing receipt of the call from the calling party to the called party including means and method for announcing an identity of the calling party (*col.3 line 61-col.4 line 11; announcing receipt can read on broadcasting the caller to the called party or the telephone ring itself with the identity of the calling party shown*);
means and method for providing call answering options to called party and for receiving call answering instructions from the called party (Fig.4); and

means and method for completing the phone call according to the call answering instructions received from the called party (labels 42,62-68 of Fig.2 and col.4 lines 43-69).

Regarding claims 2 and 10, Wolff teaches the telephone call announcement system and method as recited in Claims 1 and 9, wherein said means for announcing a greeting includes a voice response unit (10 Fig.1 and col.5 lines 1-6).

Regarding claims 3 and 11, Wolff teaches the telephone call announcement system and method as recited in Claims 2 and 10, wherein said means for providing call answering options including at least the options to connect the phone call between the calling party and the called party, sending the calling party to a voice mail unit, or terminating the phone call (col.4 lines 43-68).

Regarding claims 4,5,7,12,13, and 15 Wolff teaches the telephone call announcement system and method as recited in Claims 2 and 10, wherein said menu for announcing a greeting further includes means for announcing to the calling party that the called party is a cellular telephone customer and providing an option to the calling party to accept the called party's cellular telephone usage charges and if caller declines to accept charges terminate call [Fig.8, col.5 lines 1-6, col.5 lines 44-65 and col.6 lines 37-45; in Wolff's system, the end user is able to announce back to the caller, "you called my cell which accrues charges, stay on the line if you want to accept my cell phone charges (*for urgent calls*) or call my desk number in 30 minutes"].

Regarding claims 6 and 14, Wolff teaches the telephone call announcement system and method as recited in Claims 5 and 13, wherein said means for providing call answering options includes at least the options to connect the phone call between the

calling party and the called party, sending the calling party to a voice mail unit, or terminating the phone call (col.4 lines 54-69).

Regarding claims 8 and 16, Wolff teaches the telephone call announcement system and method as recited in Claims 1 and 9, wherein said means for completing the phone call according to the call answering instructions include means for connecting the phone call, means for switching the calling party to a voice mail unit and means for disconnecting the calling party (col.4 lines 54-69).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph T Phan whose telephone number is 703-305-3206. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 8:30-6:30, in every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on 703-305-4895. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9314 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-9600.

JTP
April 7, 2003

FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 4000

